

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 141520  
ORIGIN ORM-03

INFO OCT-01 DHA-02 IO-02 ISO-00 SSO-00 /008 R

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DRAFTED BY D/HA/ORM:LARTHUR:CML

APPROVED BY D/HA - JLCARLIN

-----172158Z 121603 /14

O 172142Z JUN 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

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FOL RPT OTTAWA 05096 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BELGRADE ZAGREB  
14 JUN 77 QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OTTAWA 05096

DEPT FOR D/HA - MR. LARRY ARTHUR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, YO

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ASYLUM: IVICA PLESE

REF: 2 FAM 228.5

1. PLESE, IVICA; YUGOSLAV.
2. JANUARY 3, 1933; DELNICE YUGOSLAVIA; (FORMERLY) FURNITURE STORE MANAGER.
3. EXPIRED YUGOSLAV PASSPORT.
4. CANADIAN MINISTRY OF MANPR AND IMMIGRATION.

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5. PLESE CONTACTED EMBASSY FOR ASYLUM AFTER CANADIAN COURT  
DENIED REQUEST THAT IMMIGRATION APPEAL BOARD RECONSIDER  
REFUSAL TO GRANT ASYLUM.

6. FEARING DEPORTATION FROM CANADA, PLESE IS MOVING CON-  
STANTLY FROM AMONG PRIVATE HOMES.

7. PLESE CLAIMS FOLLOWING: AUTUMN, 1970, HE JOINED CROATIAN CULTURAL ORGANIZATION, MATICA HRVATSKA, AND BECAME COMMITTEE ORGANIZATIONAL RECRUITER IN DELNICE. AFTER YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT DISBANDING OF MATICA HRVATSKA IN DECEMBER 1971, PLESE ORGANIZED UNDERGROUND MEETINGS OF MATICA HRVATSKA UNTIL EARLY FEBRUARY 1975, WHEN HE FLED YUGOSLAVIA. SUMMER 1974 HIS PAY WAS CUT BY 50 PERCENT. IN 1974, IN SPITE OF PRESSURE, HE REFUSED TO JOIN COMMUNIST PARTY. EARLY FEBRUARY 1975 A FRIEND WORKING FOR JPOLICE WARNED PLESE HE WAS TO BE ARRESTED WITHIN DAYS. PLESE FLED IMMEDIATELY. HE WOULD RECEIVE UP TO FIFTEEN YEARS IN PRISON, WERE HE TO RETURN TO YUGOSLAVIA. OTHER MATICA HRVATSKA LEADERS HAVE IN FACT BEEN IMPRISONED. HE MAINTAINS CANADIAN REFUSAL OF ASYLUM WAS BASED ON POOR PRESENTATION OF HIS CASE BY A NOTARY, AND INACCURATE INTERPRETING/TRANSLATING SERVICES DURING HIS APPEAL. EMBASSY IS AWAITING RECEIPT OF CASE FILE FROM CANADIAN AUTHORITIES.

8. CONOFF IS NOT AWARE OF ANY CRIMINAL CHARGES PENDING OR OF ANY TERRORIST BACKGROUND.

9. NO COMMUNIST PARTY AFFILIATION. AFFILIATED IN YUGOSLAVIA WITH MATICA HRVATSKA, AND IN CANADA WITH THE CROATIAN PEASANT PARTY (HRVATSKA SELJACKA STRANKA).

10. POST POUCHING COPIES OF PLESE'S AFFIDAVITS TO CANADIAN IMMIGRATION TO DEPARTMENT. CANADIAN IMMIGRATION INFORMED CONOFF IT WOULD NOT ACT ON DEPORTATION AS LONG AS USG CON-8\$348,& 43173 5. EMBASSY HAS ADVISED PLESE TO SEEK DOL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CERTIFIED JOB OFFER ON WHICH TO BASE NON-PREFERENCE IV APPLICATION, AS ALTERNATIVE TO ASYLUM. ENDERS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, POLITICAL ASYLUM, COURT DECISIONS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** LARTHUR:CML  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** SREF, YO  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009